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11. A composition of claim 22 wherein the solid supp rt is a polymeric support.

12. A compositi n of claim 22 wherein the solid support forms a filter.

13. A composition of claim 22 wherein the solid support is a tape or sponge.

18. A composition of claim 21 wherein the peptide ligand is in a liquid medium.

21. A composition comprising a tagged peptide ligand of 5-12 mers known to bind to spores from a particular species of bacteria selected from B. subtilis, B. anthracis, and B. cereus and a sample suspected of containing spores which will bind to said peptide ligand.

22. The composition of claim 21 containing a tagged peptide ligand which binds with specificity to the surface of a B. anthracis spore, said ligand being bound to a solid support.

23. The composition of claim 21 wherein the tagged peptide of 5-12 mers binds to a B. anthracis spore, said peptide containing

either the sequence Thr-Ser-Gln-Asn-Val-Arg-Thr (TSQNVRT) (Seq. ID No. 40) or a sequence of the general formula Thr-Tyr-Pro-X-Pro-X-Arg (TYPXPXR), wherein X is Ile, Val or Leu.

24. The composition of claim 23 wherein the tagged peptide of 5-12 mers contains the sequence Thr-Ser-Gln-Asn-Val-Arg-Thr (TSQNVRT) (Seq. ID No. 40).

25. The compositionsof claim 23 wherein the tagged peptide of 5-12 mers contains at least one sequence chosen from among Thr-Tyr-Pro-Ile-Pro-Ile-Arg (TYPIPIR) (Seq. ID No. 41), Thr-Tyr-Pro-Ile-Pro-Phe-Arg (TYPIPFR) (Seq. ID No. 42), and Thr-Tyr-Pro-Val-Pro-His-Arg (TYPVPHR) (Seq. ID No. 43).

29. The composition of claim 23 wherein the petide ligand is in a liquid medium.